

(Senate Joint Resolution No. 23)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

International Year of the Child

FOR the purpose of declaring the support of the General Assembly of Maryland for the International Year of the Child; providing a framework for advocacy on behalf of the children of Maryland; and fostering the enhancing of awareness of our leaders and the public toward the special needs of children.

WHEREAS, The children of this State are its most precious resource; and

WHEREAS, 1979 is the 20th Anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child and has been designated by Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly as the International Year of the Child; and

WHEREAS, The International Year of the Child in Maryland should be an occasion to reaffirm, not by words alone but by deeds, that the well-being of today's children be the concern of all people everywhere and that it is inseparably linked with the peace, brotherhood, and prosperity of tomorrow's world; and

WHEREAS, The quality of professional education and service programs presently available to children can be improved - and new programs initiated - through increased cooperation with volunteer groups, advocates for children, community service providers and the public sectors in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, These efforts will serve to ensure that children, regardless of their ethnic origin, religious preference, social or economic status will be given increased opportunities to achieve their intellectual, physical, and spiritual potential; and

WHEREAS, Full cooperation from the homes, the schools, the religious institutions, and from the communities is needed to fulfill our responsibilities to children; and

WHEREAS, The Office for Children and Youth, in conjunction with the Maryland Coordinating Committee for the International Year of the Child, with the full support and cooperation of the Governor has agreed to assume the leadership for the International Year of the Child activities in Maryland for this year and future years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the year of 1979 is declared as the International Year of the